

sufficiently testified, sustaining thereby the greatest injury. A considerable diminution had taken place in the building of merchant ships. In 1805, ships were built to the amount of 90,000 tons. In 1810, to the amount of only 61,000 tons. By the system which had been pursued, the trade had been thrown out of the harmless and distant power of America, into the hands of those near us, and ready to assist France in her hostility. Nothing could be more annoying and injurious to the trade of this Country, than the systematic, and every day's interference with it to which the Executive Government had resorted. The President and Vice-President of the Board of Trade, were at present the great merchants of the country, and not the residents in London, Liverpool, or Hull. They employed their mornings not in devising the means of protecting British Merchants, of annoying those of the enemy, or of diminishing the hostility of neutrals, but in making assortments of cargoes, an occupation to which, with all due respect to them, he conceived that they were wholly incompetent. He did not object to the Right Hon. Gentleman opposite on the ground of his political or natural but of his mercantile incapacity. The habits of his life had as little fitted him for the task which he had undertaken, as a Right Hon. Secretary of the Treasury who had lately come out as an eminent poet, had in his (Mr. B's) opinion been fitted by his habits for the task which he had undertaken.—It was really ridiculous to contemplate the Noble Lord at the head of the Board of Trade, settling the various component parts of a cargo. Sometimes determining that it should consist of wool, scissors, nails, and cotton twist; then hesitating whether or not to leave out the scissors; and finally, perhaps, determining to omit the nails, and allow the scissors to be included. He did not impute any abuse in the granting of licences; he did not mean to accuse Government of partiality in that respect. But it was evident, that those merchants who were consulted by the Board of Trade on the perpetual changes that were taking place, must have very little cunning, if they could not make a probable guess with respect to the projected prohibitions and admissions which to them would be just as great a bonus as any stock-brokers would receive to whom the Chancellor of the Exchequer might communicate the terms on which he meant to fund Exchequer Bills, or to contract for the sale of the Lottery. The merchants also consulted by the Board of Trade were not such men as the Members for Worcester, or the Members for the City of London. No; those who were seen clearing outwards and inwards at the office were generally neutrals—and their agents, jobbers and brokers from Duke's place. These were the persons whom the Board of Trade thought proper to consult, and their commercial regulations. By the perpetual changes in their regulations, the enemy were continually enabled to anticipate and frustrate our wishes. But the most deplorable effect to which the new system had, was on the morals of those who were employed under it. It had been said by a high authority (Sir W. Scott.) that it was a series of simulation and dissimulation from beginning to end. It would have been still more accurately described, had it been called a system beginning in forgery, continuing in perjury, and conversant with every description of fraud and enormity. He described the nature of the licences and the deceptions which were practised under them, (reading a circular letter which had been sent to various Merchants in London, from persons who actually professed to establish themselves for the sole purpose of making simulated papers. If this was the kind of victory which our commerce was to enjoy over the designs of Bonaparte, he disclaimed any share in the triumph. After dwelling at considerable length on these similar points, he concluded by moving,

"That a select Committee be appointed for the purpose of taking into consideration the present state of the commerce and manufacturers of the Country, particularly with reference to the Orders in Council, and the Licence Trade." (To be continued.)

HOUSE OF COMMONS, MARCH 13. PORTUGAL.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer informed the House, that he held in his hand a Message from His Royal Highness the Prince Regent. The Speaker then read the Message which was in substance as follows:

G. P. R.

"His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, informs the House, that the assistance which he has been enabled, through their means to render to the Portuguese Government, has been effected, in alleviating the hardships of that people, and encouraging in them that valour and energy by which our allies of the Portuguese nation have been so highly distinguished. The effects of the conduct of this country towards the people of Portugal were evidenced in every engagement in which they had an opportunity of exerting themselves—His Royal Highness trusts that the House of Commons

will enable him to continue the same support to Portugal that had been granted upon the last occasion."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer gave notice, that he would refer the Message of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent to the Committee of Supply on Monday.

BY AUTHORITY.

Acts passed at the last Session of the General Assembly.

CAP. X.

An ACT to authorise the Justices of the Peace for the County of Charlotte to levy an assessment for paying off the County debt, and for finishing and completing the County Gaol and Court House lately erected in said County. Passed the 7th of March, 1812.

The Justices in Sessions are authorised by this Act to raise by Assessment a sum not exceeding £800 in addition to the sum of £400 already assessed upon the County.

CAP. XI.

An ACT to authorise the Common Council of the City of Saint John to appoint Constables for such Wards of the City as shall omit to choose the same. Passed the 7th of March, 1812.

WHEREAS by the Charter of the City of Saint John, the Freemen and Freeholders of the said City, being inhabitants, are authorised and empowered to elect annually, one Constable for each of the six Wards of the City. And whereas it has frequently happened that in some of the said Wards no Constable has been chosen agreeably to the provisions of the said Charter.

I. Be it enacted by the President, Council, and Assembly, That it shall and may be lawful for the Common Council of the said City annually, to appoint one fit person to be Constable, for each and every of the said Wards, in which no Constable shall have been chosen agreeably to the provisions of the said Charter.

II. And be it further enacted, That if any Person appointed to the office of Constable, under and by virtue of this Act, or elected to the same office agreeably to the provisions of said Charter, shall happen to die, or remove out of the said City, within the time for which he shall be so appointed or elected, or shall refuse to take upon himself to execute the said office, when so appointed or elected, it shall and may be lawful for the said Common Council to appoint one other fit person to execute the said office, in the room of such person so dying, or removing, or refusing to take upon himself to execute such office.

III. And be it further enacted, That every Person appointed under and by virtue of this Act, shall before he executes the office of Constable, be duly sworn as is provided by the said Charter, in the case of persons elected to the said office; and any person who shall refuse, deny, delay or neglect to take upon him to execute the said office, when so appointed by the said Common Council, shall be subject to the like fine as is provided by the said Charter, upon the refusal or neglect of any person to take upon him to execute the said office, after being elected to the same; to be imposed or recovered, and levied and collected, as in and by the same Charter is provided.

IV. And be it further enacted, That the persons who may be appointed to the office of Constable, under and by virtue of this Act, for the several Wards in the eastern district of the said City, shall be inhabitants of the Wards, for which they shall be respectively appointed, and Freemen of the said City, and the persons who may be in like manner appointed for the Wards in the western district of the said City, shall be inhabitants of the said district, and Freemen of the said City.

CAP. XII.

An ACT more effectually to prevent the encumbering or filling up of Harbours, and to authorise the appointment of Harbour Masters. Passed the 7th of March, 1812.

WHEREAS the Laws now in force "to prevent the encumbering or filling up of Harbours," are found ineffectual: And whereas it is necessary for the security of vessels, that Harbour Masters should be appointed in this Province.

I. Be it therefore enacted by the President, Council, and Assembly, That an Act made and passed in the thirty-third year of His MAJESTY's Reign, intituled "An Act to prevent the encumbering or filling up of Harbours," and also an Act, made and passed in the fiftieth year of His MAJESTY's Reign, intituled "An Act in addition to an Act, to prevent the encumbering or filling up Harbours," be, and the same are hereby repealed.

II. And be it further enacted, That no master or commander of any ship or vessel, shall unload or throw overboard, any ballast or rubbish, into any Road, Port or Harbour in this Province, or land the same in

any other part of such Road, Port, or Harbour than shall be appointed by the Harbour Master, or Port Wardens of the respective Ports, under the penalty of twenty-five pounds, for each and every offence.

III. And be it further enacted, That when ballast is discharged in any of the Harbours of this Province, into boats or lighters, there shall be a sufficient piece of canvas or tarpauling, reaching from the ballast port or gunwale of such ship or vessel to the boat or lighter to prevent any part of such ballast or rubbish falling into such Harbour under the penalty of ten pounds, for each and every offence, which penalties shall be recovered on the oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, before any two of His MAJESTY's Justices of the Peace for the County where such offence shall be committed, all which penalties when recovered, shall be paid into the hands of the Commissioners appointed to erect beacons, land marks, buoys, and other necessary purposes in their respective Counties, who shall account to the Justices in their Sessions for the expenditure: Provided always that nothing in this Act shall extend or be construed to extend to the City of Saint John.

IV. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Justices of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas in the respective Counties, to appoint Harbour Masters for such Harbours as may be found to require the same, which Harbour Masters shall have full power and authority to direct and regulate the proper ballast births, and also the anchoring and mooring of each and every vessel coming into such Harbours, and the master or commander of any ship or vessel, who shall refuse or neglect to obey or conform to the directions of such Harbour Master, shall forfeit and pay the sum of five pounds for each refusal or neglect, to be recovered and applied as aforesaid; and it shall and may be lawful for such Harbour Master to ask, demand and receive from the master, commander or consignee of every ship or vessel (coasters excepted) which shall come into and anchor in such Harbour, the sum of five shillings for all vessels above fifty tons, and not exceeding one hundred tons, and ten shillings for all vessels above one hundred tons, as Harbour Masters fees, which Harbour Masters shall furnish copies of the regulations made for their respective Harbours to the Pilots appointed for such Harbours, one copy of which regulations, such Pilots are hereby required to give to the master or commander of every vessel they may take charge of, for his information; and it shall be the duty of such Harbour Masters to prosecute all breaches of this Act.

V. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall be in force for two years, and to the end of the then next Session of the General Assembly, and no longer.

Advertisements omitted this week will be inserted in our next.

TAKE NOTICE.

ON the 6th day of April 1812, in a settlement of accounts with Oliver Bradley, said Bradley has detained my Note of Hand for the sum of Eleven Pounds Thirteen Shillings and Eightpence, dated April 10, 1809; after said Note being paid by me, to said Bradley. This is to give Notice, that the above-mentioned Note has been paid.

ALEXANDER BROWN.

Fredericton, 10th April, 1812.

ALL Persons having demands against the Estate of the late WILLIAM CHEW, of Fredericton, deceased, are requested to present the same to the Subscriber within twelve months from the date hereof, and those indebted to said Estate, are desired to make immediate payment to

DUNCAN M'LEOD, Administrator.
Fredericton, April 10, 1812.